

VZCZCXYZ0003
RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHTH #0943 1541134
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 031135Z JUN 09
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0259
INFO RUEHTH/AMEMBASSY ATHENS

UNCLAS ATHENS 000943

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: ECON EFIN KV PREL GR
SUBJECT: URGENT FOLLOW-UP DEMARCHE: VOTING FOR KOSOVO'S WORLD BANK
MEMBERSHIP

REF: 09 STATE 54944; A. A) STATE 43681/43679

¶1. (SBU) On June 1, PolCouns delivered reftel points to Ms. Agnóstopoulou, Counselor, A3 Directorate for the Balkans, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Agnóstopoulou stated that, as with the vote on Kosovo's IMF membership, the MFA has instructed Greece's World Bank Governor (the Governor of Greece's central bank, the Bank of Greece, George Prokopopoulos) to vote "no" in writing on the issue of Kosovo's World Bank membership by the June 3 deadline. She indicated that while Greece opposed Kosovo's membership in the multilateral financial institutions (based upon Greece's policy of not recognizing Kosovo's independent status), the government did not seek to block a quorum. She also indicated that, ultimately, it is up to Governor Prokopopoulos to vote as he sees fit.

¶2. (SBU) A/EconCouns followed up with Governor Prokopopoulos of the Bank of Greece; however, his office has not been able to confirm how and whether he has yet voted. Post will continue to follow-up and will pass additional information via email to the appropriate contacts in the Department and at Treasury.

SPECKHARD